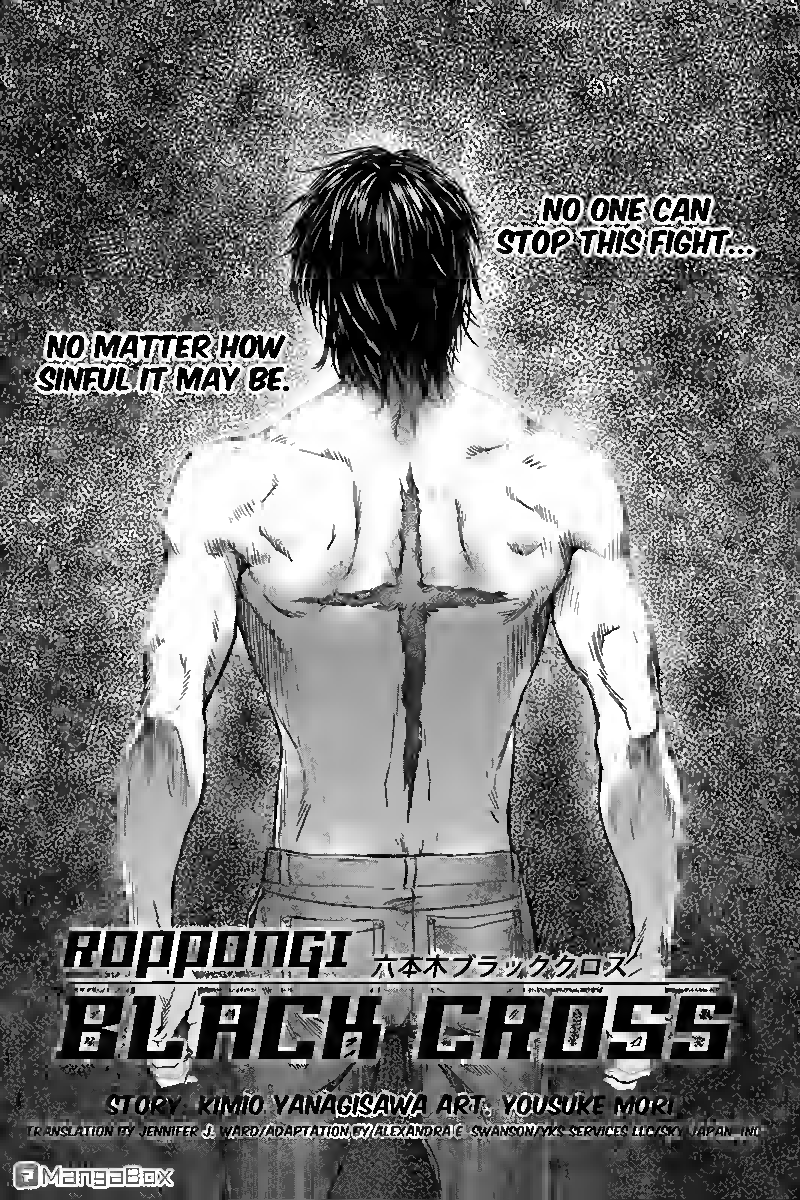
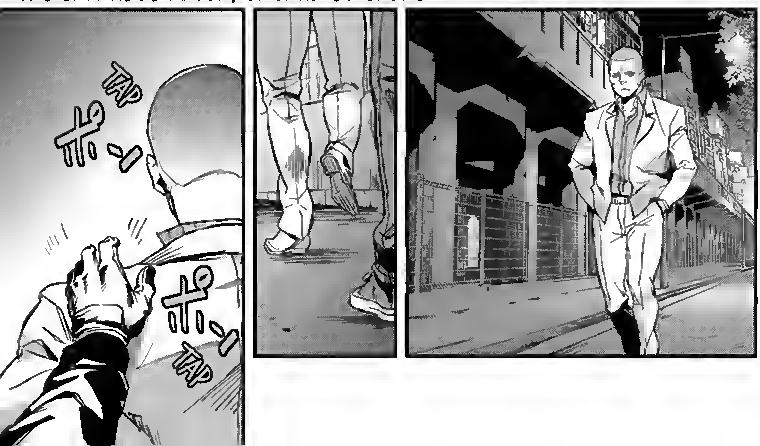

NO ONE CAN STOP THIS FIGHT...
NO MATTER HOW SINFUL IT MAY BE.
Roppongi
六本木ブラッククロス
BLACK CROSS
STORY: KIMIO YANAGISAWA ART: YOUSUKE MORI
TRANSLATION BY JENNIFER J. WARD/ADAPTATION BY ALEXANDRA E. SWANSON/YKS SERVICES LLC/SKJ JAPAN, INC.
MangaBox

ROP-PONGI
...
THESE DAYS, IT'S THE AREA WITH THE MOST ILLEGAL ACTIVITY IN TOKYO. IT'S CRAWLING WITH YAKUZA* AND GANGS DEALING IN DRUGS, BOOZE, AND SEX.

*THE JAPANESE MAFIA, ORGANIZED CRIME



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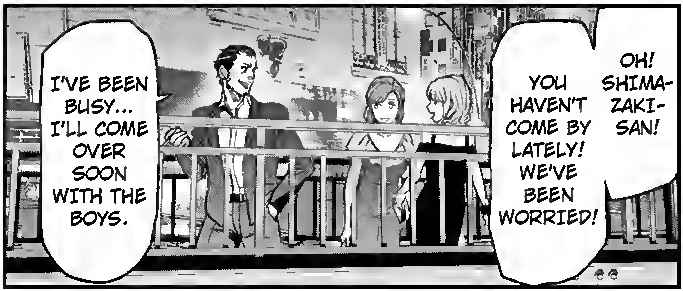
WHAP
WHAP
THUNK
WHAP

PHEW
...
TWITCH
TWITCH
FLUTTER

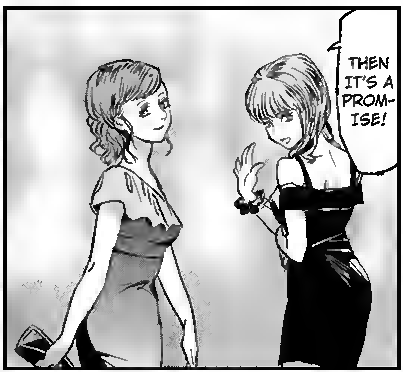
BAM
TO: SHIMAZAKI
OF THE RAGAN GUMI:
I WILL KILL YOU.
THE BLACK CROSS
THE RAGAN-GUMI HQ
...
TO SHIMAZAKI
OF THE RAGAN GUMI

HMPH. WHAT A JOKE.
HE'S GONNA KILL ME?
RAGAN-GUMI UNDERBOSS,* SHIMAZAKI
HE'S JUST JUMPING MEN IN THE DARK, THAT BASTARD. THE HELL DOES HE MEAN, "BLACK CROSS"?
HE SOUNDS LIKE A GODDAMN POMPOUS ASS.
WHERE'S THE PUNK
WHO'S PUTTING ON THIS FUCKING FARCE?
CRUSH

*"WAKAGASHIRA" IN JAPANESE. IT REFERS TO THE SECOND IN COMMAND IN A CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION.


OH! SHIMA-ZAKI-SAN!
YOU HAVEN'T COME BY LATELY! WE'VE BEEN WORRIED!
I'VE BEEN BUSY... I'LL COME OVER SOON WITH THE BOYS.

YEAH ..

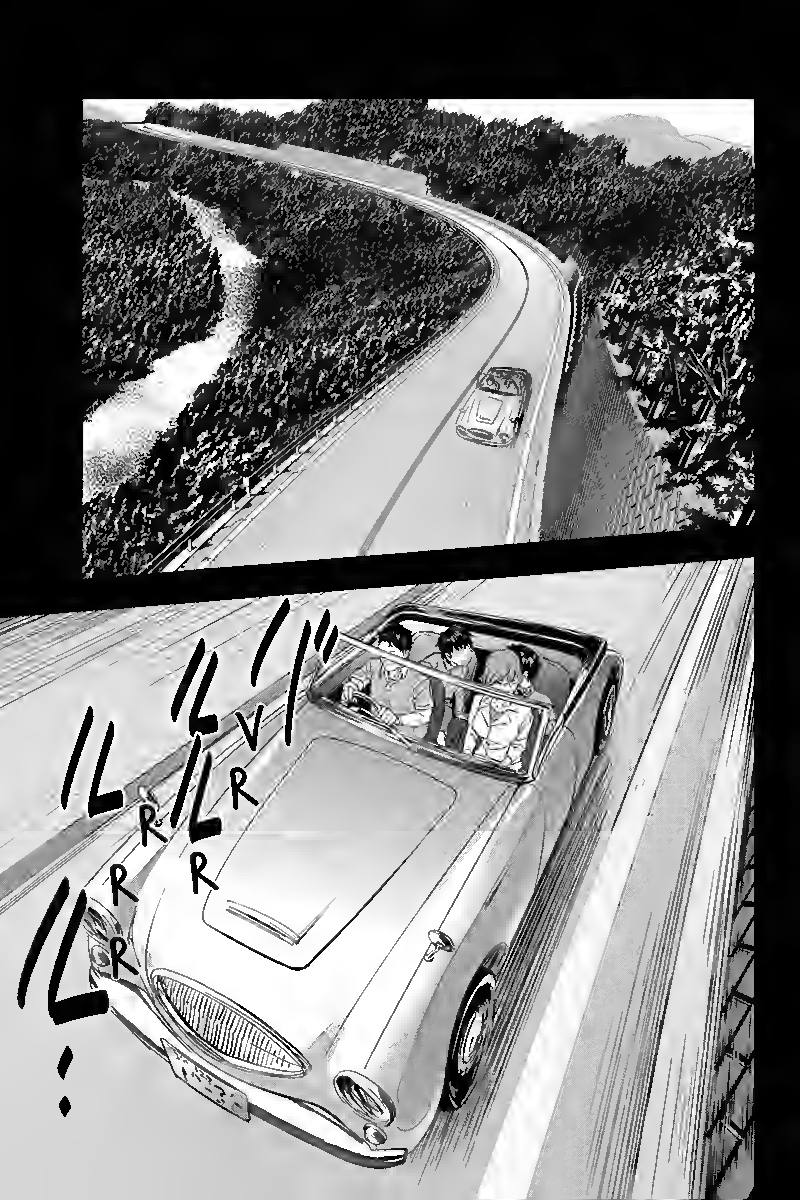

THEN IT'S A PROM-ISE!

SPIN
!
THAT'S NOT GONNA HAPPEN, SHIMAZAKI.
A MAN WITH A BASEBALL CAP AND A SURGICAL MASK...!
THE BLACK ...
YOU'RE ...
SCRAPE

SLAM
ドカ…
YAAAGH!!
S-STOP!
I'M THE BLACK CROSS.
YEAH…

YA
AA
AA
AA
AA
H

22 YEARS
PREVIOUSLY...


VRRRRRRRRR!!!

YES, AND THERE'S SUCH A NICE VIEW!
HIS WIFE, YOSHIMI
THE WIND FEELS GREAT, HUH?
MASAHIDE NAKADO, LAWYER
THE TWIN BOYS, SEIICHI AND SEIJI
CHATTER
CHATTER
HEY! DON'T BOUNCE AROUND SO MUCH!
HA HA HA!

HUH?
CLUNK
グッ
PRESS
CLUNK
CLUNK
...!!
NGH!
THE BRAKES AREN'T WORK-ING!

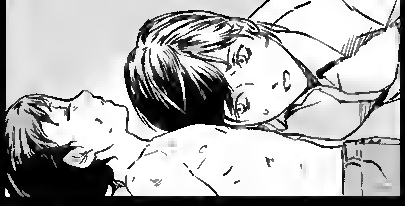
GYAAGH!
FLOO
SHA
OOO
CRUNCH
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK

SPLASH
KRSHHHH
FSHHH

WE'VE COME SEE YOU, KOU-TAROU...
HIS WIFE, YOSHIE
KAZUO KUROKI, ADJUNCT PROFESSOR
IT HAS BEEN EXACTLY ONE YEAR SINCE THEIR SON DISAP-PEARED.
STOP PRAY-ING!
ONE YEAR AGO, THIS COUPLE CAME ON A TRIP TO THIS RIVER WITH THEIR FOUR-YEAR-OLD SON, KOU-TAROU. HE WAS SWEPT AWAY, NEVER TO BE SEEN AGAIN.

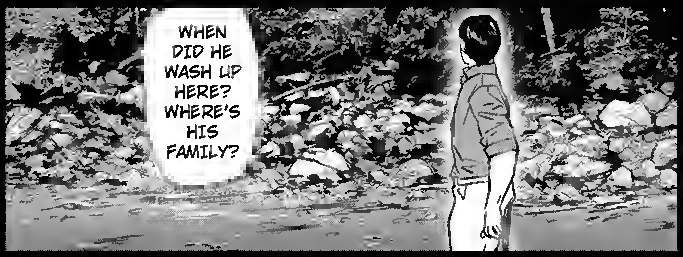
*PRAYING LIKE THAT IS GENERALLY RESERVED FOR THE DEAD IN JAPAN. HE IS ASSUMING THEIR SON IS DEAD.

COME ON LET'S GO HOME.
YOU KNOW IT TOO. KOUTAROU ISN'T COMING BACK.
...
H-HEY! WHAT IS IT?!
HONEY! OVER THERE ...!



OH, NO... HOW HORRI-BLE!

WHAT A RELIEF! HE'S ALIVE!
GASP
LIFT


WHEN DID HE WASH UP HERE? WHERE'S HIS FAMILY?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
HUH?

THIS IS KOU-TAROU!
GOD HAS HEARD MY PRAYERS... AND HE'S COME BACK TO US!
THAT CAN'T BE!
THAT BOY CAN'T BE KOU-TAROU!
FSHHHHH
SNAP OUT OF IT, YO-SHIE!

THE MALICE OF OTHERS TOWARO THIS BOY WILL CHANGE HIS OESTINY...